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## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)  
Sheet 1 of 6

Application Number	09/973,645
Filing Date	10/9/2001
First Named Inventor	Robert B. Steffen
Group Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	VTN 561

### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
E.C.		3,808,178		Gaylord	04/30/1974	
		4,136,250		Mueller et al.	01/23/1979	
		4,139,513		Tanaka et al.	02/13/1979	
		4,153,641		Delchert et al.	05/08/1979	
		4,182,822		Chang	01/08/1980	
		4,189,546		Delchert et al.	02/19/1980	
		4,254,248		Friends et al.	03/03/1981	
		4,259,467		Keogh et al.	03/31/1981	
		4,260,725		Keogh et al.	04/07/1981	
		4,261,875		LeBeouf	04/14/1981	
E.C.		4,276,402		Chromeczek et al.	06/30/1981	
		4,327,203		Deichert et al.	04/27/1982	

### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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		Office <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup>				
E.C.			JP 61-123609			11/06/1986		
			WO 91/10155			07/11/1991		
			WO 96/31792			10/10/1996		

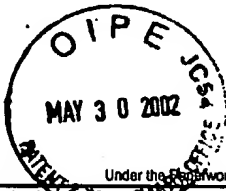
Examiner Signature		Date Considered	9/04
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<b>Substitution of Prior Art</b> <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> (use as many sheets as necessary) Sheet 2 of 6	<b>Application Number</b>	09/973,645
	<b>Filing Date</b>	10/9/2001
	<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Robert B. Steffen
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		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
E.C.		4,341,889		Deichert et al.	07/27/1982	
		4,343,927		Chang	08/10/1982	
		4,355,147		Deichert et al.	10/19/1982	
		4,486,577		Mueller et al.	12/04/1984	
		4,495,313		Larsen	01/22/1985	
		4,543,398		Bany et al	09/24/1985	
		4,605,712		Mueller et al	08/12/1986	
		4,640,489		Larsen	02/03/1987	
		4,661,575		Tom	04/28/1987	
		4,680,336		Larsen	07/14/1987	
		4,703,097		Wingler et al.	10/27/1987	
		4,786,657		Hammar	11/22/1988	
		4,837,289		Mueller et al	06/06/1989	

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		Office <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup>				

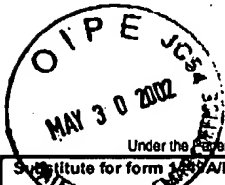
Examiner Signature	<i>[Signature]</i>	Date Considered	9/04
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<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> (use as many sheets as necessary) Sheet 3 of 6	<b>Application Number</b>	09/973,645
	<b>Filing Date</b>	10/9/2001
	<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Robert B. Steffen
	<b>Group Art Unit</b>	
	<b>Examiner Name</b>	
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		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
R.C.		4,871,785		Froix	10/03/1989	
		4,889,664		Kindt-Larsen et al.	12/26/1989	
		4,954,586		Toyoshima et al.	09/04/1990	
		4,954,587		Mueller	09/04/1990	
		5,010,141		Mueller	04/23/1991	
		5,034,461		Lai et al.	07/23/1991	
		5,039,459		Kindt-Larsen et al.	08/13/1991	
		5,057,578		Spinelli	10/15/1991	
		5,070,215		Bambury et al.	12/03/1991	
		5,079,319		Mueller	01/07/1992	
		5,115,056		Mueller, et al.	05/19/1992	
		5,258,490		Chang	11/02/1993	
		5,260,000		Nandu et al.	11/09/1993	
		5,314,960		Spinelli et al.	05/24/1994	

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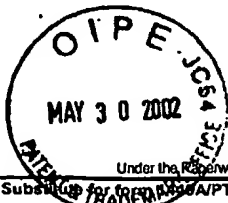
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<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> (use as many sheets as necessary) Sheet 4 of 6	<b>Application Number</b>	09/973,645
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	<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Robert B. Steffen
	<b>Group Art Unit</b>	
	<b>Examiner Name</b>	
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		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
P.C.		5,338,797		McGee et al.	08/09/1994	
		5,346,946		Yokoyama et al.	09/13/1994	
		5,358,995		Lai et al.	10/25/1994	
		5,371,147		Spinelli et al.	12/06/1994	
		5,387,632		Lai et al.	02/07/1995	
		5,387,662		Kunzler et al.	02/07/1995	
		5,401,508		Manesis	03/28/1995	
		5,451,617		Lai et al.	09/19/1995	
		5,486,579		Lai et al.	01/23/1996	
		5,539,016		Kunzler et al.	07/23/1996	
		5,710,302		Kunzler et al.	01/20/1998	
		5,714,557		Kunzler et al.	02/03/1998	
		5,760,100		Nicolson et al.	06/02/1998	
		5,776,999		Nicolson et al.	07/07/1998	
		5,789,461		Nicolson et al.	08/04/1998	

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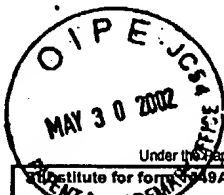
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Sheet 5 of 6

Application Number	09/973,645
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		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
E.C.		5,807,944		Hirt et al.	09/15/1998	
		5,908,906		Kunzler et al.	06/01/1999	
		5,944,853		Molock	08/31/1999	
		5,958,440		Burrell et al.	09/28/1999	
E.C.		5,962,548		Vanderlaan et al.	10/05/1999	
		5,965,631		Nicolson et al.	10/12/1999	
		5,981,615		Meijs et al.	11/09/1999	
		5,981,675		Valint, Jr. et al.	11/09/1999	
E.C.		5,998,498		Vanderlaan et al.	12/07/1999	
E.C.		6,020,445		Vanderlaan et al.	02/01/2000	
		6,039,913		Hirt et al.	03/21/2000	

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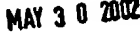
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Sheet 6 of 6

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<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Robert B. Steffen
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<b>Examiner Name</b>	
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[illegible]

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